

ANNUAL REPORT FOR
1952
to
THE EVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
by
J.J. MURRAY, M.B., D.P.H.
(District Medical Officer of Health)

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Mr. Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Nightingale and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the health of your District for the year 1952.

VITAL STATISTICS:

Registrar-General's population estimate - 11,940.

BIRTHS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	106	99	205
Illegitimate	5	5	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	111	104	215

STILL BIRTHS:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	2	3

1951

Birth rate per 1000 of estimated resident population - 18.0 17.2

Still-birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births - 14.0 19.0

DEATHS:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	70	63	133	97	72	169.

Death rate per 1000 of estimated resident population - 11.1 14.1

Deaths from pregnancy and childbirth - Nil.

Rates per 1000 total (live and still) births - Nil.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Deaths of infants under one year	3	1	4
Deaths of legitimate infants	3	1	4
Deaths of illegitimate infants	-	-	-

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

All infants per 1000 live births	18.6	34
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	19.5	35
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	23	35
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil	Nil

Comparison with some of the figures for the whole country is as follows:-

England and Wales. District. District.

	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1951.</u>
Birth rate	15.3	18.0	17.2
Death rate	11.3	11.1	14.1
Infant Mortality rate	27.6	18.6	34.0

CAUSES OF DEATH TABLE FOR 1952.

<u>Cause of Death:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. T.B. of respiratory system	2	-	2
2. Other forms of T.B.	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and para: dis:	-	-	-
10. Cancer of Stomach	3	2	5
11. Cancer of Lungs	3	-	3
12. Cancer of Breast	-	4	4
13. Cancer of Uterus	-	2	2
14. Cancer - Lymph. and other types	4	5	9
Total:	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>23</u>
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	-	2
16. Diabetes	-	3	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	8	17
18. Coronary Dis:, angina	6	4	10
19. Hypertension with heart dis:	2	2	4
20. Other heartdis:	17	13	30
21. Other circulatory dis:	2	-	2
22. Influenza	1	-	1
23. Pneumonia	3	2	5
24. Bronchitis	2	2	4
25. Other dis: of res: system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	2	2
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined dis:	7	11	18
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2
34. Other accidental causes	1	1	2
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Other violent causes	-	-	-
TOTAL:	<u>70</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>133</u>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Regional Hospital Board arrangements for the treatment of infectious diseases and the ambulance system are both working quite satisfactorily.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Rainfall was a little below average for the year but the permitted abstraction from the Pinnock springs proved sufficient to supplement the reduced yield of the gravity springs at Broadway.

At Pinnock the change over from diesel to electricity as the motive power for the pumps was largely completed during the year. At the same time the opportunity was taken to install electronic repeater recording and automatic control apparatus, with float controlled origination at the Broadway reservoir transmitted to the Evesham office for autographic recording and to Pinnock for automatic pump operation.

3" diameter asbestos cement water mains were laid to serve 79 houses on the Fairfield Housing Estate - Scheme No. 6.

A protective fence was erected at the high level reservoir to prevent possible contamination by rabbits, pigs and cattle.

Thirteen samples of water from the town supply were sent to Worcester for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis all of which proved satisfactory.

The town water has a slight action on lead but the County Analyst reports that the amount of metal likely to be dissolved under ordinary circumstances would be harmless.

All houses in the Borough are supplied by piped water and there are no stand-pipes for domestic supply.

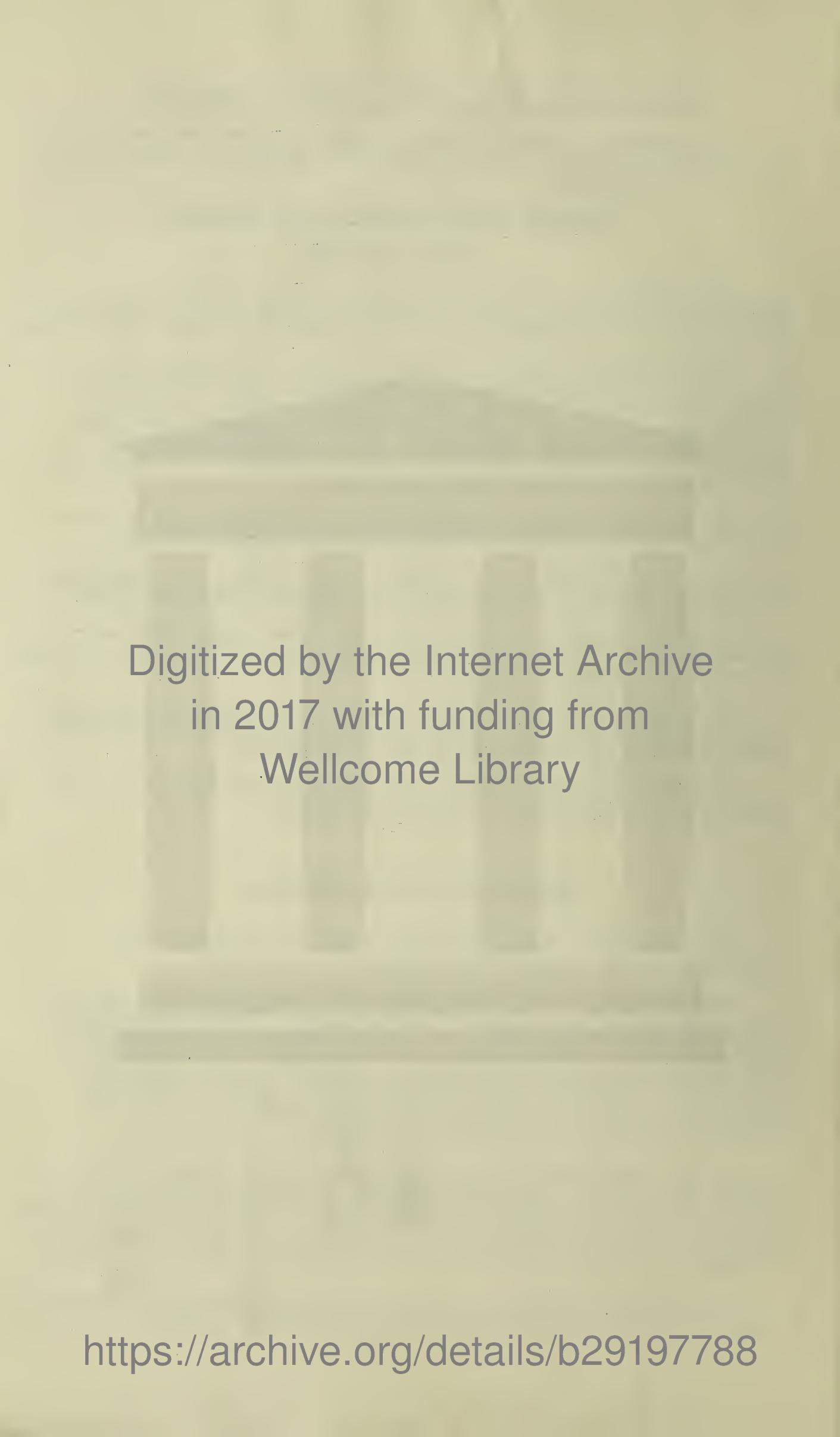
SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The temporary sewage disposal works at Fairfield was completed in May and put into operation soon after.

The design for the Relief Sewer for Fairfield was completed and submitted to the Ministry for approval. This incorporates a 12" diameter trunk sewer, 9" and 12" diameter twin inverted siphons under the River Avon and 18" diameter sewer leading to the Sewage Works. Provision has been made for accepting the flow now taken by the Abbey Gardens siphon, part of that now flowing to the Hampton siphon and for connecting to the new low level pump house at the Sewage Works.

Minor improvements were carried out at the Sewage Works within the limits of the small amount of money made available, the principle item being the replacement of the broken down sludge pump by a 4" V.S. Clearway electric pump. The final effluent continues to be unsatisfactory and the general state of repairs is deteriorating.

The design for the new Sewage Works prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineer is still awaiting Ministry approval.

A faint, out-of-focus background image of a library shelf filled with books, creating a scholarly atmosphere.

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HOUSING

Site preparation and building works have continued on the Fairfield Housing Estate during the year and at the 31st December a total of 207 dwellings had been completed on this Estate since the end of the war.

Fairfield No. 4:

The Housing Contractors handed over the last of the 82 houses in August making a total of 38 houses completed on this site during 1952.

Fairfield No. 5:

Building has continued on this site and by the end of the year 37 of the 63 houses and 28 Maisonettes were completed and several more in course of construction.

Fairfield No. 6:

Site preparation works were carried out and a start made on the house construction but although eight were started no houses were actually completed. This site will eventually accommodate 79 houses and 8 Maisonettes.

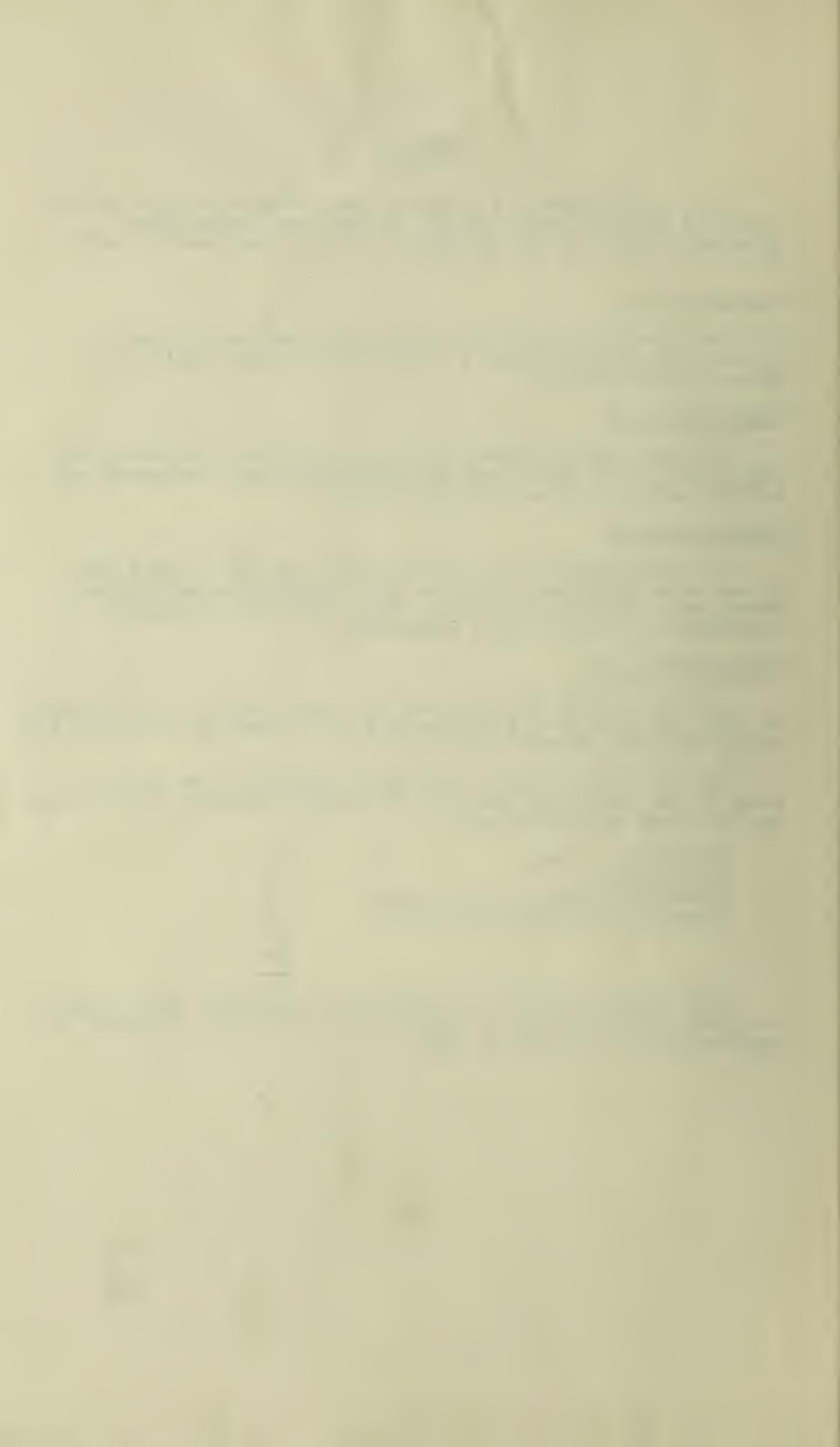
Fairfield No. 7:

Survey work and layout plans for approximately 140 dwellings on this site have been completed and it is hoped to carry out the laying of roads, sewers, etc., in 1953.

The 75 Council houses completed during the year makes a total of 386 dwellings built by the Evesham Borough Council since the war, made up as follows:-

Traditional Houses	271
Maisonettes	12
Permanent Prefabricated Houses	74
Temporary Prefabricated Houses	29
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	386

Also during the year 14 houses were completed under private enterprise and a further 5 houses and 2 flats were in course of construction at the end of 1952.



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Inspections of premises under the Food & Drugs Act were carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant.

Slaughtering was continued in the local bacon factory and whenever possible anti-mortem examination of the pigs was made. All carcasses were inspected.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

Pigs.

Number killed	38,793
Number inspected	38,793

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole carcass condemned	10
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	1,964
Approximate percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	5%

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcass condemned	13
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	1,609
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	4.2%

The chief causes of condemnation other than tuberculosis were bruising, abscesses, pneumonic lungs and "milk spot" livers.

Approximately 24 tons of meat was condemned during the year.

Other foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption were:-

Tinned goods	-	2096 (approx. 2 tons)
Bottled goods	-	396
Eggs	-	1704
Fish	-	2729 lbs.
Other goods	-	2938 lbs.

ICECREAM.

Number of premises registered for manufacture	- 2
Number of premises registered for sale	- 30

Both manufacturers produce heat treated icecream and maintain suitable equipment with adequate temperature recording and indicating apparatus.

Fifty-three samples were taken and examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Worcester. Fifty-two were provisional Grade 1 and the other Grade II.

Fifty-four inspections of icecream premises were made.

MANUFACTURE OF SAUSAGE, POTTED, PRESSED, PICKLED AND PRESERVED FOODS.

No of registered premises - 14.

Fifty-one inspections were made of the premises and two notices for lack of cleanliness and supply of hot water, etc., were complied with.

FOOD SHOPS AND CAFES.

Routine inspections of food shops and cafes were carried out and 169 inspections were made. 8 notices requiring repairs, redecoration and washing facilities were complied with.

MILK AND DAIRIES

No. of Dairymen and Purveyors - 4.

Only heat treated milk is sold in the district and all 54 samples taken proved satisfactory for keeping quality.

CAMPING SITES

One further caravan site was licensed during the year making a total of five in the district. Approximately 100 caravans and chalets are accommodated on these sites and with tents provide accommodation for about 750 people in the season.

About 50 caravans and chalets are in permanent occupation.

All sites were regularly inspected and but for occasional requests for general tidying up no serious complaints have arisen.

SWIMMING BATH

The public baths at Common Road are municipally owned. Water is derived from the town mains and is continually filtered and chlorinated. Daily tests for chlorination efficiency proved satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health:-

	Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1)	Factories in which Sec.1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	9	12	-	-
(11)	Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	94	28	4	-
(111)	Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL.	103	40	4	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars.	Number of Cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted	
	Referred		Found	Remedied.		
	To H.M.	By H.M.				
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-	
<u>Sanitary Conveniences:</u>						
a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-	
b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	2	-	
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act	4	3	-	3	-	
Total:	7	6	-	6	-	

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork.
(Sec.110 & 111)

During the year 3 Outworkers were employed in the Borough on glove making. Working conditions were found to be quite satisfactory.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notified diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1952.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	2	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-
Pneumonia	5	1	5
Dysentery	1	1	-
Measles	5	-	-
Whooping Cough	24	-	-
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Cerebro -spinal fever	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	1	-
Ac. Inf. Encephalitis	-	-	-
	43	5	5

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE
YEAR 1952.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning	Ac. Inf. Encephalitis
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 - 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 20 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21 - 35 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45 years	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 65 years	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
66 and over	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	1	5	1	5	24	4	-	-	-	1	-	-

DIPHTHERIA.

No cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH AND MEASLES.

The 24 cases of Whooping Cough notified showed a further decrease over the previous two years when 48 and 31 cases were recorded in 1950 and 1951 respectively.

Only 5 cases of measles occurred throughout the twelve months, four of these being during April and May.

There were no deaths from either disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

Two cases of Scarlet Fever were notified - one in January and the other in June. The ages of the children affected were 11 and 12 respectively and, although the one child was removed to Newtown Isolation Hospital for treatment, both recovered.

POLIOMYELITIS.

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis reported during 1952.

FOOD POISONING.

A case of salmonella type food poisoning was reported in April and investigations showed that it was probably caused by eating duck eggs. No further cases occurred.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year immunisation of children against diphtheria has been carried on actively and a total of 155 children were immunised as follows:-

0 - 4 (inc)

106

5 - 14 (inc)

49

These figures include immunisations carried out by private practitioners.

Since 1940 to the end of 1952 a total of 3507 children in the Borough have been immunised against diphtheria.

No school closure was necessitated by infectious disease during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives particulars of the 14 new cases of Tuberculosis (as against 16 in 1951), and of all deaths from the disease in the area during 1952:-

<u>Age Groups.</u>	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmon.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmon.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
45 - 54 years	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10	2	-	2	1	2	-	-

1951.

Number of deaths from non-notified Tuberculosis - Nil.

Total number of Tuberculosis deaths - 3

1

5

SUMMARY.

The deaths of infants under one year showed a decrease from 1951, giving a rate of 18.6 per 1000 births which is well below the figure of 27.6 for the whole country.

The number of deaths during the year decreased by 36 from 1951. Approximately 66% of the total deaths were of persons aged 65 years and over.

Births showed a slight increase of 9 over 1951.

There were no deaths from infectious disease and no cases of either poliomyelitis or diphtheria were notified. The incidence of infectious disease was the lowest since 1946.

The incidence and deaths occurring in Tuberculosis shows little change.

On the above figures it can be stated that the health of the area may be regarded as very satisfactory.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their assistance during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J.J. MURRAY

Medical Officer of Health.

